

# Eastern Arizona Amateur Radio Society

EST. 1974

[www.eaars.com](http://www.eaars.com)

INC.



[facebook.com/groups/eaars](https://facebook.com/groups/eaars)

Club Address: EAARS, PO Box 398, Solomon, AZ 85551



*October, 2019*

## JOIN EAARS on Facebook

EAARS has a presence on Facebook and you are invited to **JOIN** the page. This is a great media to quickly share news, photos and events that are EAARS related or might be interesting to the members. If you utilize "Notifications" on the EAARS Facebook page, you can receive club updates AS THEY HAPPEN.

To reach the page, please visit **facebook.com/groups/eaars** and **JOIN** the page. You must have a Facebook account to be part of the EAARS group.



## EAARS Open Repeaters

**PL 141.3** unless noted otherwise

**Echolink:** 614350 **IRLP:** 7787

**Heliograph Peak at Safford, AZ:**

146.860, 440.700 Linked

146.900, 447.8250 Not Linked

**Jacks Peak at Silver City, NM:**

145.210 Linked

**West Peak at Ft Thomas, AZ:**

145.350 Access to link to network

**Pinal Peak at Globe, AZ:**

145.410 Linked

**South Mt at Alpine, AZ:**

145.270 Linked

**Caballo Mt at TorC, NM:**

145.470 Linked

**Greens Peak at Show Low, AZ**

146.700 Linked

**Little Florida at Deming, NM:**

147.060 Linked

**Mule Mt at Bisbee, AZ:**

147.080 Linked

**Mt Lemmon at Tucson, AZ**

147.160 Linked

**Guthrie Peak at Clifton, AZ:**

147.280 Linked

# Gals on the Air!

**EST. June 2015**

Calling all Gals of any class ... Join us every Monday night for the  
**Gals Night Net @ 7:30 pm (AZ) on the EAARS system!**

## Upcoming Events

*Would You like to see your event posted for the membership to see?  
Email your information to [emberfire@cox.net](mailto:emberfire@cox.net).*

### 2019 Events

Oct 5 ..... Three Points Community Festival ---- George KD7XP  
Oct 6 ..... Tucson Ham Picnic ---- Reid Park  
Oct 19 ..... Tucson Classic Car Show ---- Scott K7ADX  
Oct 20..... Making Strides Against Breast Cancer ---- Angie N7EMB  
Nov 9..... Alzheimer's Walk ---- Angie N7EMB  
Nov 9 ..... Colossal-Vail 50/50 ---- Greg W9GRG  
Nov 9 ..... OVARC Hamfest  
Nov 23 ..... El Tour ---- Cary WB2BSJ  
Dec 1 ..... Vail Mountain Bike Event ---- Greg W9GRG  
Dec 7 ..... Tucson Marathon ---- Mike W7LJ

Did you know that you can see the Public Service Opportunities on [soazhamservice.net](http://soazhamservice.net)? The events are posted by dates and who leads them. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please feel free to contact them.

### WEEKLY EAARS' NETS

#### **Every day:**

*Down Under Net - 4:15 am*

*Weather Net - 5:30 am*

*NTS Traffic Net - 6:30 pm*

#### **Sunday:**

*EAARS Net - 7:00 pm*

#### **Monday:**

*Gals Night Net - 7:30 pm*

#### **Wednesday:**

*Skywarn Net - During Monsoon, Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm,*

*Off Season, every third Wednesday of month at 7:30 pm*

#### **Saturday:**

*ERC (Emergency Response Communications) Net -8:45 am ,*

*2nd Saturday of the month (20-25 min duration)*



# EAARS Officers and Staff

## Board Officers

|                     |                |       |
|---------------------|----------------|-------|
| President           | Dave Wells     | N7AM  |
| Vice President      | Dan Quaintance | AF7EF |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Larry Griggs   | N5BG  |

## Staff

|                   |                |       |
|-------------------|----------------|-------|
| Site Trustee      | Joe Montierth  | K7JEM |
| Net Manager       | Chris Buchanan | N7JND |
| Newsletter Editor | Angie Buchanan | N7EMB |

## Net Control Operators

|             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Rick W8YBM  | 1st Sunday |
| Angie N7EMB | 2nd Sunday |
| Mike W7IJ   | 3rd Sunday |
| Chris N7JND | 4th Sunday |

As some of you have probably observed, that intermittent noise/desense to weaker stations using the Mt. Lemmon EAARS repeater has hopefully been fixed. This has been plaguing us for some time, and usually at the most inopportune time, IE during traffic net operations. We are now transmitting into a different antenna, lower in height, thus splitting the transmit & receive antennas. We are still receiving on the same antenna. Some may notice a weaker signal strength from Mt. Lemmon, due the antenna location being lower in height. But the overall improvement in operations has improved. Thanks to everyone for their patience and support of the EAARS system. de Larry N5BG.

## New EAARS Members!

Mike KI7LXY



totally  
awesome

## 2019 Scout Jamboree

The 2019 Scout Jamboree on the Air is upon us and WN7BSA, the Southeast Arizona Boy Scouts Wireless Association, will be "on-the-air" for the event. The Jamboree on the Air, JOTA for short, is an international Scouting activity held annually the third full weekend in October. This year the weekend of October 18th - 20th. The JOTA event is now considered the largest event scheduled by the World Organization of Scouting.

Many EAARS members have heard WN7BSA on the air before and usually you will hear some young voice asking questions about amateur radio and this year will be no exception. In addition to our on-the-air activities members of WN7BSA and other volunteers will be staging other hands-on events.

Another event will be "Fun With Audio" or "How To Annoy Your Parents and Drive Your Friends Crazy." Participants will get to play with an audio generator, a speaker, and an oscilloscope and see the difference between a sine wave, a square wave, and a triangular wave and then blast the neighborhood with the most jaw-jarring sounds they could devise.

Morse code anyone? The youngsters will experience what it was like to send a "Morse code message" during the pioneer days.

Old Time Radio. See vacuum tubes in action as members show off some of their heirloom audio and radio equipment. Participants may even get to take home a few vacuum tubes to show off to their grandparents. Again this year, the Ray Conniff Singers and Orchestra will be attending via transcription.

And don't forget the transmitter hunt, the "hands-on" soldering demonstration, and a new event. Scouts will be able to un-solder and disassemble some heirloom electronic pieces.

But wait, there's more. After dark, members of the Tucson Amateur Astronomical Association (TAAA) will be showing off some of the wonders of the evening sky through their telescopes. We will get to see Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and many deep sky objects.

EAARS members, please help us out! When you hear us on the air, please do not be afraid to get on and answer some of the youngsters questions. Also be prepared to ask questions.

Questions we'll be asking:

1. What is your QTH and how are you reading my signal?
2. Can you tell me how long you have been a ham radio operator and what do you like best about amateur radio?
3. Was it hard to get a license?
4. Do you have other hobbies besides amateur radio?
5. Did you grow up in Tucson?
6. What did you do for fun when you were a teenager?
7. Did you ever get into trouble when you were in school?

Suggested questions you can ask:

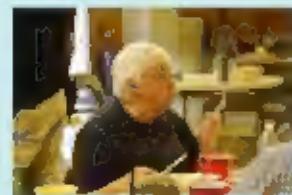
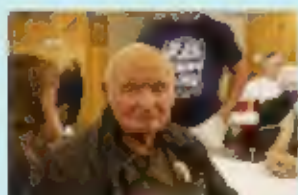
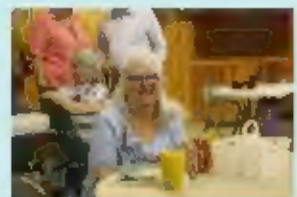
1. Do you like sports?
2. What are your favorite teams?
3. Do you play a musical instrument?
4. Have you seen any movies recently?
5. Have you read any good books recently?

So again, please listen for us on October 19th. We will be on the EAARS system as well as other Tucson area repeaters and on HF.

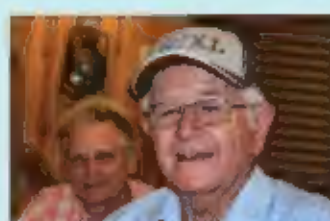
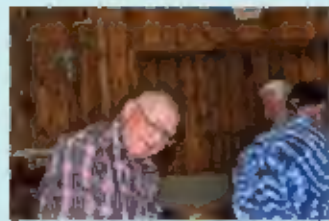
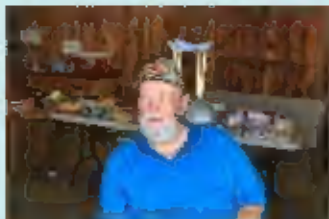
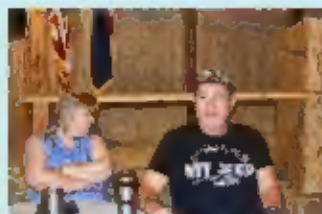


# EAARS PICNIC 2019

*Thank you JP KI7OFK and Charlie K7ABB  
for submitting photos from our EAARS picnic.*







**Thank you to those who were able to attend the EAARS picnic. EAARS would like to thank you all for your continuous support! See you next year!**



## 2019 Special Event – Ghost Town Paradise

The Cochise Amateur Radio Association has been making an annual trek to the Ghost Town of Paradise in the eastern foothills of the Chiricahua Mountains over Labor Day Weekend for is used primarily as a training event for members of the ARES/RACES unit to practice a wide variety of operator skills as well as conduct an amateur radio “special event” by operating from the Ghost Town of Paradise. This was our 41st anniversary of this event.

After an uneventful convoy to the training site adjacent to the Paradise Cemetery (31° 55.933'N, -109°12.544'W). We set up two primary HF antennas (a military surplus Inverted V [HT-20B] and a home-brew 2 element Yagi). Two individuals (AA7JB, N7NYG) also put up personal antennas and stations for testing. This combination was effective and a total of 259 radio contacts (252 voice, 7 Digital) were made throughout the US (40 States), and three countries Wake Island, Chile, Canada). During the Sunday morning AZ State Net, 10 of the 15 AZ counties were represented. To further demonstrate capability and flexibility, we checked into the HF Arizona Traffic and Emergency Net. There was a total of approximately 32 hours of on-air operation. Two of the team members are MARS members and checked into the Sunday morning Region 9 MARS training net as well.

We noticed that the overall band conditions/ propagation were not favorable for 20 meters this weekend. Like last year, there was also some unusual sunspot activity going on. We heard several on-air mentions about this by some other hams on lower bands. This is not something we can plan for or control. While band conditions were not great, we did not experience the amount of rain and lightning we were faced with last year.

Continued deployments such as this offer great training opportunities for new members of the ARES/RACES unit as well as refresher for some of the longer-term members. It also provides opportunities to fine-tune operating procedures.

On Saturday night, the crew enjoyed grilled steaks provided by our County Emergency Services Director Gabe Lavine and cooked to perfection. Additional side dishes of traditional potato salad, tossed salad, macaroni salad, Key Lime tarts, and caramel sea salt tarts were also provided.



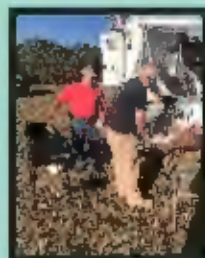
Paradise Overhead



Paradise Socializing



MCU- Clouds



Cooks in Action



Paradise Dinner



Aaron-Lee Operating



N7INK on 75 meters

Continued on Page 9



## **Paradise Special Event Station Intro**

Each year for the past 40 years, the members of the Cochise Amateur Radio Association have operated a Special Event Radio Station in or near the Ghost Town of Paradise on the Labor Day Weekend. At first it was simply for fun, but for the past several years we have made it a fun event with some training in emergency operations thrown in for good measure. In past years we have operated the old forest service deuce and half van, you can see the shelter over on the north west corner of Larson Hall. When that was turned in, we did one year using a trailer and tent, what a wet year that was. Then we got the ERV which operated for several years. In 2006 we had the baptism of the MCU. I mean that literally because it was also a wet year.

The Ghost Town of Paradise is approximately 5 miles from the New Mexico/Arizona state line, east of Rodeo and just northwest of Portal AZ in the foothills of the Chiricahua Mountains. The elevation on the meadow where we set up is approximately 5500 ft above sea level. The meadow abuts the Paradise Cemetery. We have Silver Peak to our southwest at 7900 ft and Chiricahua Peak at 9700 ft to our west.

Paradise was an active silver mining town in the late 1890's and early 1900's. The Post office opened on October 23, 1901 and closed on September 30, 1943. Paradise once had 13 saloons and that speaks for itself. The original jail was an open jail where the inmate was chained around the tree or on the chain between two trees. The mines closed in 1907 but there is still a small population living in town.

### **Overall Operating Plan:**

Some folks may go out early on Friday but the main body and the MCU will depart Green Acres at approximately 0730 on Saturday, August 30th. We normally drive out through Bisbee to Douglas, short pit stop for fuel, ice etc, and proceed east on highway 80 to Rodeo New Mexico. Just North of Rodeo is the road back west to Portal. From Portal we will take Forest Road 42B toward Paradise and stop at the Cemetery. It is on your left as you approach Paradise and quite visible from the road. Start to turn into the cemetery and then veer to your right as you go up the slight incline to the meadow.

Grid Coordinates are: 31 deg 55.90N/109 deg 12.55W.

We usually operate a very flexible schedule so that we can work in some training on the MCU as well as have fun making contacts with anyone wanting a certificate from the Ghost Town of Paradise. (Show Attached). We try to be set up and operational by Noon on Saturday. The frequencies are found on in the Special Event section on the ARRL website. We were too late to get published in the September issue of QST, Special Event Section. We typically observe quiet hours at night from approximately 22:00 - 07:00 to allow beauty sleep for any that need it and to avoid bothering the local residents in the cemetery. So far they have not complained.

**Continued on Page 9**



## 2019 Special Event - Ghost Town Paradise - Continued

### Continued From Page 7

For the 3rd year in a row the traditional "Bean Feed" was replaced by an impromptu chili cook off. I think we now have a new tradition. There were two different pots provided by Vince (AA7JB), and Bob (N7INK). Some left over steak from Saturday night was slipped into Bob's pot again this year. The consensus was both pots were excellent. Corn bread provided by both Vince and Bob along with amazing apple pie & plum cobbler were supplied by Bob's wife, Crickette. Condiments, tossed salad, macaroni salad, etc. were provided by others.

The always unique "Eggs Paradise" prepared by Chefs Vince & Bob for Monday morning breakfast was excellent. This year's batch included; eggs (white, brown and green), sausage, steak, bacon, chorizo, onion, shredded cheese, and Potatoes O'Brien. Secret ingredients will remain, well ah, secret.

A special shout out for our younger operators Aaron KF7VVJ and Thomas KK6NOH for their diligent efforts to capture as many contacts as they did. They certainly provided the lion's share of contacts. Well done gentlemen.

## Paradise Special Event Station Info - Continued

### Continued From Page 8

For the last couple years we have had a community supper with steaks provided by the County Director of Emergency Services. On Monday morning we have a community breakfast feast featuring the traditional Eggs Paradise. The ingredients are secret. You may ask why. We never know what exactly may be in it from year to year. You see we kind of empty the ice chests and refrigerators and whatever is left goes into the multiple frying pans. No one has gone away hungry. By special request we will also do a Vegan version.

Tear down usually begins around 10-10:30 Monday morning and we are on the road back around lunch time. You are welcome to come for a couple hours, stay for a day, or stay for the entire weekend. I do need a head count for the Forest Service Special Use Permit. I need to turn that in by Friday next week. As always, we will remain flexible.

Bring what you want or may need such as rain gear, but be sure to take back everything you bring back with you. A Porta Potti will be provided for tenters/etc. at a

Any Questions? I'll stay around after the meeting to discuss any issues you may have. Come on down it is a lot of good clean family fun.



How many of you know what TOT stands for? It's found in most 2 meter and 440 and other radios both HT's and mobiles. If you are not familiar with TOT, get ready, as you are about to know what TOT stands for. TOT stands for Time Out Timer and should be one of the FIRST things that you program in your radio.

Last week or maybe the week before, EAARS experienced yet another stuck microphone with a very nice television show playing in the background. This went on for over an hour which prompted me to write another newsletter article about the TOT. There is no shame in having an open mic as it's happened to most of us, including myself with my cat lying on my desk microphone for well over 3 minutes. Knowing my kitty, probably 3 hours. Luckily, I had my TOT set and my transmitter timed out after 3 minutes of key down. If I had not had my TOT set, my kitty could have had the key depressed for a very long time and you could have listened to over an hour of a cat purring which personally, puts me to sleep.

In all seriousness, most modern and many older FM mobiles & HT's, have a TOT setting in their menu. It's extremely important you set this value to 3 minutes for three main reasons which are...

- Save yourself from embarrassment. Stuck mics have great ears. They like to pick up words and other sounds and discussions that you probably don't want to be transmitting. I have heard it all including some great country music and I once heard someone read a credit card number out loud not knowing this was being transmitted. (I'm not kidding).
- Save Your Radio... Nothing burns out a final in a transmitter quicker than one being stuck on for hours. Most mobiles & HT's have very poor duty cycles when it comes to the transmitter being on. The finals can heat up very quickly and even the radio's heat sink can be extremely hot to touch as the heat sink is trying its best to do its job. Don't burn out your radio when the TOT can shut off your transmitter after 3 minutes and won't key up again until the PTT is released and keyed again.
- Stuck mics can tie up a repeater for a long time. Yes, most repeaters themselves have a TOT programmed in them. However, when the repeater times out, it will usually reset in a minute or so and start transmitting the stuck mic again. Keep in mind, when there's a stuck mic on the repeater, EMERGENCY TRAFFIC MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET THRU.

Stuck microphones are pretty much preventable just by setting your Time Out Timer and hanging them up when not in use. It's one of the first things I do when I buy a new radio. If the new radio doesn't have a TOT, I don't buy it. Even our trusty Baofengs have a TOT setting in their menu. Also, put the microphone in its clip when not in use. Don't just throw it down onto the seat. Seats were not designed to be a mic holder. It's just gonna get stuck open when something else is thrown on top of it.

Remember you are responsible for what's being transmitted out of YOUR radio. Take preventable measures to help prevent the stuck open microphone.

73,  
Chris N7JND



# Other Club Stuff

**RST holds FREE VE testing on the following dates, 7:00 pm at Hardesty Mid- Town Police Building, 1100 S Alvernon, Tucson.**

14-Oct-2019  
11-Nov-2019  
09-Dec-2019

## **RST Upcoming Days in the Park Events**

Oct 12 2019    AMPHI Neighborhood Park  
510 E. Navajo Road  
10 AM to 2 PM Talk in on 146.520 FM

The Laurel VE Team, WM-VET, will be conducting license testing on 5 October 2019 at 9:00 AM at Solterra Senior Living located at 5408 Arizona Highway 260 in Lakeside, Arizona. Walk-Ins are welcomed, however, pre-registration is preferred. You can email the team at [VEtesting@cableone.net](mailto:VEtesting@cableone.net) to pre-register. Please include your name (the exact name used to create your FRN, if you have an FRN), license call (if you have one), and which license exam you wish to take. An acknowledgement will be emailed back to you.

At the test session, the following will be required: A government issued photo ID, your FCC Registration Number (FRN) if you have one OR your social security number, the original and a copy of any passed exam element credit (CSCE), and a copy of your current license if upgrading. The test session begins at 9:00 AM.

The Kachina Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring a two-day review class to assist those planning to test for their Technician License on 7 December 2019. The first half of the review will be held on Saturday, November 30, 2019 from 8am to noon. The second half will be on Sunday, December 1, 2019 from noon to 5pm. The review sessions will be conducted at the Solterra Senior Center, 5408 Hwy. 260 (White Mountain Blvd), Lakeside, AZ. The Laurel VE Team, WM-VET, will be conducting license testing on Saturday, 7 December 2019, at 9:00 AM at that same location. Walk-Ins are welcomed, however, pre-registration is preferred. You can email the team at [VEtesting@cableone.net](mailto:VEtesting@cableone.net) to pre-register. Please include your name (the exact name used to create your FRN, if you have an FRN), license call (if you have one), and which license exam you wish to take. An acknowledgement will be emailed back to you. At the test session, the following will be required: A government issued photo ID, your FCC Registration Number (FRN) if you have one OR your social security number, the original and a copy of any passed exam element credit (CSCE), and a copy of your current license if upgrading. The test session begins at 9:00 AM.

**Do you have any club news to share?  
It can be posted on this page.  
Send your info to Angie - [emberfire@cox.net](mailto:emberfire@cox.net).**

*Cooking up  
Some Magic*



# One Pan Autumn Chicken Dinner

## Ingredients

**Bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs**  
**Olive oil**  
**Fresh herbs – rosemary, thyme, sage**  
**Red wine vinegar**  
**Garlic**  
**Brussels sprouts**  
**Sweet potato**  
**Fuji apples (or other sweet baking apples)**  
**Bacon**  
**Salt and pepper**



Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Place pour in 2 Tbsp olive oil, red wine vinegar, herbs and garlic into a gallon size resealable bag. Add chicken and season with salt and pepper then rub mixture over chicken.

Let rest while you prep remaining ingredients.

Add sweet potatoes, apples, Brussels sprouts, and shallots to a rimmed 18 by 13-inch baking sheet. Drizzle with 2 Tbsp olive oil, season with salt and pepper then toss to coat.

Spread into an even layer.

Top with chicken pieces and sprinkle bacon over veggie/apple mixture.

Roast in preheated oven until chicken has cooked through and veggies are tender, about 30 – 35 minutes, broil during last few minutes for more browned crispy chicken skin. Serve warm.

*kiss the*  
**cook**  
●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●